

Cambridge Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees  
Minutes

A regular meeting of the Board of Library Trustees was held on Monday, April 12 in the Director's Office of the Main Library. The following members of the Board of Library Trustees were present:

- Janet Axelrod
- William Barry
- Andre Mayer
- Patricia Payne
- James Roosevelt
- Nancy Woods

also present:

- Susan Flannery, Director of Libraries
- Bertha Chandler, Assistant Director for Human Resources
- Marilyn Gagalis

Minutes from the January meeting and planning minutes from the February joint meeting with the Friends of the Cambridge Public Library were approved.

Correspondence was acknowledged from Robert Maier, Gates Foundation, and Kathleen Manion.

Susan Flannery informed the Board that she had not received any search warrants for the months of January, February and March.

Susan Flannery also reminded Board members that she will participate in a panel presentation on the Patriot Act on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The Cable TV Department will tape this program.

Susan Flannery suggested that the Board participate in the "Cambridge Reads" campaign by discussing the chosen book, *The Namesake* at their June meeting. Board members unanimously agreed. Copies of *The Namesake* were distributed to Board members.

Susan Flannery reported that the Museum of Fine Arts has announced that user fees will be charged to pass holders upon the renewal date of the current contract. After a brief discussion, James Roosevelt suggested that the Board of Trustees write a letter requesting the Museum to reconsider this policy. If they refuse, the library will announce this policy to all patrons. Susan Flannery will ask the Friends of the Library to also sign this letter. It was suggested that a copy of this letter be sent to all Minuteman Libraries for their information and use.

Andre Mayer suggested that the library compose a guide of "things to do for free" in this area and that this guide be posted on our web site. Susan Flannery will assign this to the Reference Department.

The Mid Cambridge District Conservation Commission voted unanimously to support the design of the Main Library at their recent meeting. Ms. Flannery voiced her appreciation to all the speakers and to those who attended the meeting in support of the Library. The Planning Board meeting will be held on May 4, 2004 at which time the Board will consider the library's application for a special permit.

A member of the public asked the Board questions concerning the move of the library. When will the library close for the purpose of moving? Ms. Flannery answered that an exact date was not yet available but it should be in late August or September, based upon how quickly the drawings and renovations to Longfellow can be completed. Ms. Flannery further reported that the Fire Department and Inspectional Services were actively working with the library to prepare the Longfellow building. Alan Burne, Project Director for the Library is also investigating the stress load of the Longfellow building to determine where books can safely be located. Board members asked Ms. Flannery if there would be compromises made in library services while the library is housed at the interim location. Ms. Flannery explained that there would be no adult programming and Program Coordinator Gail Willett would travel to the branches to support programming at their locations. In addition, there would be fewer hours available for the public computers. The audience member also suggested that *Books & Mortar* list all public meetings concerning the library building and move. Ms. Flannery reported that Alan Burne is working towards updating the printed information.

There has been no further update on the approval of the Personnel budget according to Ms. Flannery. She will update the Board when information becomes available.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm. The next meeting of the Board will be on May 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Library.

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Andre Mayer, Secretary